

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator control device comprising:
a plurality of cars running in a ~~circulation type~~ circulating running shaft ~~formed by interconnecting~~ including an ascent shaft and a descent shaft interconnected at upper and lower terminal portions thereof;
a plurality of individual car control devices for ~~performing operation control~~ independently ~~on~~ controlling the plurality of cars; and
a group supervisory control device for ~~performing~~ collective control ~~on~~ of the plurality of individual car control devices, ~~wherein the group supervisory control device is equipped with~~ and including
 ~~a~~ communication means for performing transmission of information to and reception of information ~~to and~~ from the plurality of individual car control devices;
 ~~a~~ first shunting means for outputting a first shunting command for moving a car which has responded to a call request to a predetermined shunting floor, based on information ~~on~~ concerning each car received from the plurality of individual car control devices;
 ~~a~~ blocked state detection means for detecting, based on the basis of the information ~~on~~ concerning each car received from the plurality of individual car control devices through the communication means, a blocked state in which a succeeding car is being blocked by a preceding car that is in a standby state at the predetermined shunting floor; and
 ~~a~~ second shunting means for outputting a second shunting command for moving the preceding car, which is in the standby state at the predetermined shunting floor, to a new shunting floor when it is detected by the blocked state detection means detects that the succeeding car is in the blocked state.

2. (Currently Amended) An elevator control method for controlling a plurality of cars running in a ~~circulation type~~ circulating running shaft ~~formed by interconnecting~~ including an ascent shaft and a descent shaft interconnected at upper and lower terminal portions thereof, the method comprising:

 moving a car which has responded to a call request to a predetermined shunting floor based on positional information ~~on~~ for each of the plurality of cars;

 detecting, based on the basis of the positional information ~~on~~ for each of the plurality of cars, a blocked state in which a succeeding car is being blocked by a preceding car that is in a standby state at the predetermined shunting floor; and

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moving the preceding car, which is in the standby state at the predetermined shunting floor, to a new shunting floor when ~~it is detected that~~ the blocked state of the succeeding car ~~is in the blocked state~~ detected.